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PATENT

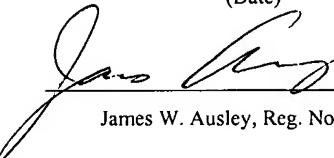
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BISEROD, Hans B.
Appl. No. : 10/009,281
Filing Date : April 19, 2002
For : RELEASE MECHANISM IN MISSILE
Examiner : BEHREND, Harvey E.
Art Unit : 3641

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 29, 2003

(Date)


James W. Ausley, Reg. No. 49,076

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 2, 2003, the Applicant hereby elects Species N wherein the lock retainer comprises a number of separated axially projecting retainers as in Claim 6 and Figure 5. The Applicant further elects Species A wherein the lock is in the form of a ball. The Applicant believes that Claims 1, 2, 6-14 read on the elected species and the Applicant withdraws Claims 3-5 without prejudice.

This election is made without traverse and the Applicant reserves the right to have the withdrawn claim subject matter considered should a generic claim be found allowable or to pursue the non-elected subject matter subsequently.

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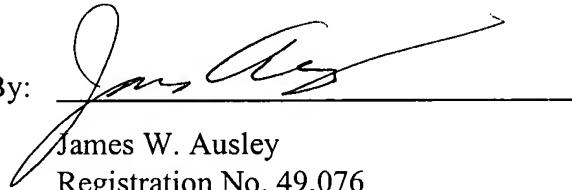
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, to avoid abandonment of the application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 10/27/03

By:



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